



Dear Parent/Carer and Year 11

As we approach the midpoint of the first half term of year eleven, I wanted to make you aware of our upcoming mock examinations; sometimes known as Pre-public Mock Examination (PPE). These will begin in the week commencing 25th November. Many parents feel at a loss when their child begins to prepare for the GCSE examinations. If you feel like this you are not alone! The exam system has changed greatly over the past few years, and is continuing to change. However, your involvement during this crucial time can make an enormous difference. You don't have to be an expert in any of the subjects your child is studying to make a real difference – you just need to know how best to spend the time you do have. The major focus should be using time wisely to complete revision and practice examination questions in addition to any set homework on educake. Many subjects have already been providing past papers as their weekly homework tasks assigned on class charts.

The mock examination/PPE weeks are really important for your child. There is no 'right' way to revise, but it is really important that they: have a revision timetable that is realistic (balance between social; rest and work); vary the nature of subjects they are revising (30 minute revision sessions); are clear on what needs to be revised (this is where the Smith proforma is useful); work through past exam papers and use a watch to 'time' some responses; if possible – work with a study buddy to test each other's knowledge; eat well; drink lots of water and pace themselves; use every exam opportunity as a chance to practise for the real exams.

I have attached a copy of the schedule of the mock examination week below. The timetable reflects a typical week in the examination period during the summer months and is indicative of the demand.

	AM: 9.00 Start	Lesson 3	PM: 13.30 Start
Monday 25th November	<b>English Language Paper 1</b> 1 hour 45 hours (9.00-10.45)	<b>English Literature Paper 1 (Christmas Carol only)</b> 1 hour (11.35-12.35)	<b>Maths Paper 1 Calculator not allowed</b> 1 hour 30 (13.30-15.00)
Tuesday 26th November	<b>English Language Paper 2</b> 1 hour 45 (9.00-10.45)	<b>Geography Paper 1</b> 1 hour (11.35-12.35)	<b>Biology Paper 1</b> 1 hour 15 (13.30-14.45)
Wednesday 27th November	<b>English Literature Paper 2 (Animal Farm and Poetry)</b> 2hrs 15 mins (9.00-11.15)		<b>Enrichment</b>
Thursday 28th	<b>Maths Paper 2 calculator allowed</b> 1 hour 30 (9.00-10.30)	<b>Geography Paper 2</b> 1 hour (11.35-12.35)	<b>Maths Paper 3 Calculator allowed</b> 1 hour 30 (13.30-15.00)
Friday 29th	<b>Chemistry Paper 1</b> 1 hour 15 Trilogy (09.00-10.15)	<b>Geography Paper 3</b> 1 hour (11.35-12.35)	<b>Philosophy and Ethics</b> 1 hour 30 (13.30-15.00)
Monday 30th	<b>Physics Paper 1</b> 1 hour 15 Trilogy (09.00-10.15)		<b>Engineering</b> 1 hour 15 (13.30-14.45)

Your son or daughter may wish to speak with their subject teachers regarding access to past paper questions or for advice on which areas to revise. Form tutors will be available to assist students in constructing a revision timetable.

Yours sincerely

Mr Attwood

Deputy Headteacher